

which did not contain the restriction against a cost-of-living allowance.

The Senate and House bills went to a conference committee, and when the conference agreement came back to the Senate for final passage, it had adopted the House position, which included no restriction on a COLA.

I voted for the conference report because it contained over \$20 billion of needed funds, including 40 percent of all Federal law enforcement moneys and funds to wage war on gangs and drugs in this country.

However, I think Congress should have had a separate vote on the cost-of-living adjustment, and if there is an opportunity to have a separate vote, I intend to vote against the COLA.●

TRIBUTE TO JOSEPH BARRY MASON

● Mr. SHELBY. Mr. President, I rise today to honor Dr. Joseph Barry Mason, the Dean of the College of Commerce at my alma mater, The University of Alabama, in my hometown of Tuscaloosa. Dean Mason is a remarkable man, a distinguished educator and a good friend.

Joseph Barry Mason received his undergraduate degree from the Louisiana Tech University College of Administration and Business. Upon receiving his Ph.D. in marketing from The University of Alabama in 1967, Dr. Mason joined the faculty of The University and, since that time, he has served that institution with distinction. During his tenure, Dr. Mason has served as the Chairman of the College of Commerce Department of Management and Marketing, and since 1988, as the Dean of the College of Commerce and the Russell Professor of Business Administration.

Dr. Mason's professional associations extend beyond the campus of The University. He is a former chairman of the board of the American Marketing Association and the 1976 Beta Gamma Sigma National Scholar.

Further, in 1984 Dr. Mason served as the Chairman of the UA Task Force on Cost Savings. In that capacity, Dr. Mason worked with the General Motors Rochester Products Plant and the United Auto Workers in Tuscaloosa in order to identify cost savings and prevent the closure of the 200-employee facility. As a result of his successful efforts, the groundwork for future academic-industrial partnerships was laid.

For his excellence in education, Dr. Mason has received numerous distinguished awards. Dr. Mason received the Leavey Award for Excellence in Private Enterprise Education from the Freedoms Foundation of Valley Forge, PA. In 1986, he was named the first annual recipient of the Academy of Marketing Science Outstanding Educator of the Year Award. And in 1994, Dean Mason was designated a Distinguished Fellow of the Academy of Marketing Science.

At various points in his career, The University has honored Dean Mason, as

well. For bringing distinctive credit to the academic community, Dean Mason was awarded the John F. Burnman Distinguished Faculty Award and The University of Alabama National Alumni Association Outstanding Commitment to Teaching Award.

Recently, Dean Mason was honored by Louisiana Tech University as its 1997 Distinguished Alumnus. As many of my colleagues know, on Saturday, November 1, 1997, The University of Alabama will play Louisiana Tech at our Homecoming Football game.

On that day, Dean Mason, loved and respected by all who have known him, will be honored as a friend and leader to not only The University of Alabama, but also to Louisiana Tech. On this day, on behalf of my wife, Annette, we wish Joseph Barry Mason our sincerest thanks and congratulations for his dedication to making a difference.●

INDUCTION OF JACKIE ROBINSON INTO NORTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY'S SOCIETY HALL OF FAME

● Mr. KERRY. Mr. President, on October 28, Northeastern University will posthumously induct Jackie Robinson into its Sport in Society Hall of Fame. As a member of the National Advisory Board of the Center for the Study of Sport in Society, I want to make a few remarks about Robinson, the Center, and racism.

Future historians will remember Jackie Robinson as one of the most significant individuals in twentieth-century U.S. history. As the first African-American to play Major League Baseball in this century, Robinson had to will himself to endure horrific abuse from fans and fellow players alike. His perseverance in the face of this challenge would have made him a memorable player even had he not excelled on the diamond.

But Jackie Robinson did excel. In his distinguished career, he won the Rookie of the Year and Most Valuable Player awards. Robinson also played a prominent role as a member of the 1955 Brooklyn Dodgers ball club, the "Til Next Year" team that finally bested its arch rival New York Yankees in a thrilling World Series.

Recounting Robinson's greatest accomplishments as a player cannot do justice to the impact that he had on the game and our nation. His daring on the base paths brought the running game back as the major style of attack in the National League for the first time in some three decades. His success with the Dodgers led to the signing of other notable players such as Roy Campanella, Larry Doby, and Satchel Paige.

His loyalty to the Dodgers ended his career prematurely. Jackie Robinson retired rather than play for the San Francisco Giants when the Dodgers sold his contract. Imagining Robinson in any uniform other than the Dodgers' is like envisioning Cal Ripken wearing New York Yankee pinstripes.

Robinson also led a productive life off the field. A Republican and a businessman, Robinson devoted the remainder of his life to civil rights, party politics, and urban affairs. He bemoaned baseball's tepid efforts at integrating all levels of the great game.

Sadly, baseball has made insufficient progress since Robinson's death almost a quarter of a century ago. In its "Racial Report Card" released earlier this year, Northeastern's Center gave Major League Baseball an overall grade of B, but only a C- for top management positions.

As Jackie's widow, Rachel Robinson, the Center's Director, Richard Lapchick, and all of the other excellent employees and friends of the Center celebrate Jackie's life, we should all reflect on what we can do to honor and build on his legacy.

Unquestionably, there is a distance yet to go when, for example, we have only one African-American general manager in major league baseball.

I send my best wishes to Northeastern University, the Center, and Rachel Robinson on this occasion. I hope that all of us will use it as a reminder of the work that lies ahead: to realize our objective, which was Jackie Robinson's as well, of a society that does not discriminate on the basis of race and offers equal opportunity to all.●

EXPLANATION OF VOTES ON THE FY98 LABOR/HHS APPROPRIATIONS BILL

● Mr. ABRAHAM: Mr. President, I supported an amendment offered by Senator GORTON which would block grant several K-12 education programs directly down to local school districts. I believe Mr. GORTON's amendment moves in a positive direction for education spending. By cutting out levels of bureaucratic red tape, Mr. GORTON's amendment would actually send more money into the classroom.

As we determine the best possible way to spend scarce education resources, I believe it is essential to ensure that the largest possible portion of our education spending makes it way into a classroom. I believe Mr. GORTON's amendment achieves this objective. By using the same appropriations level for these programs as last year and block granting that amount to the most local level, the Gorton amendment will actually provide \$670 million in additional money to local school districts. For this reason, I supported this important amendment.●

THE STATE VISIT OF JIANG ZEMIN PEOPLES REPUBLIC OF CHINA

● Mr. BURNS. Mr. President, this week one of the most important events since the end of World War II will take place here in Washington. It is the State visit of the National Leader of the Peoples Republic of China. The future of United States-China relations will somewhat be forged on the occasion of